

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated May 10, 2004, having a shortened statutory period set to expire August 10, 2004. Claims 1-17 are pending. No amendments to the claims have been made.

Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 102

On page 2 of the present Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 13, 14 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being clearly anticipated by *Gamble, et al.*, United States Patent No. 6,233,143. That rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration of the Claims is requested.

Exemplary independent Claim 1 in the present application recites "sensor means" and "control means" which are interoperable such that:

"when the carrier is inserted into the receptacle, the sensor means senses the carrier and signals the control means to actuate the drive mechanism to engage and draw the carrier into the receptacle, such that the carrier is fully seated in the receptacle"

It is argued on page 3 of the present Office Action that these elements are disclosed by *Gamble*, particularly at col. 1, lines 40-57 and col. 2, lines 19-40. Applicants dispute the Examiner's assertion that *Gamble* shows the present invention in these cited sections, or anywhere else within the reference.

Gamble is directed to a shock dampening system for a hot-pluggable hard drive (see col. 1, lines 5-57).

- Nowhere does *Gamble* describe a sensor for sensing when the carrier has been placed into a receptacle.
- Nowhere does *Gamble* describe a drive mechanism mounted within the receptacle having the capability to "draw the carrier into the receptacle, such that the carrier is fully seated in the receptacle" as is recited in exemplary Claim 1.
- Nowhere does *Gamble* describe control means for actuating the drive mechanism in response to the sensor sensing the carrier.

For example, the description at col. 1, lines 40-57 described the operation of the shock dampening yokes as the carrier is loaded into the docking bay, the yokes receiving the ribs within the docking bay. The ribs do not do any "sensing the carrier," and certainly do not provide "signals the control means to actuate the drive mechanism." At col. 2, lines 19-40, a recess is merely described.

In summary, *Gamble* nowhere shows or suggests sensing means for determining when the carrier has been inserted into the receptacle, or control means for actuating a drive mechanism to engage and draw the carrier into the receptacle upon the sensor sensing the carrier within the receptacle. Consequently, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of Claim 1 for the reasons given above. Similarly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of Claims 2, 8, 9, 13, 14 and 17 for the reasons given above and submit that the rejection under §102 should be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



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Response A.

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